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A DEVICE FOR PRODUCTION TESTING THE TENSILE STRENGTH OF CERAMIC--ETC(U)
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NAVAL UNDERWATER SYSTEMS CENTER
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840

Project No.
A-224-00-00

A DEVICE FOR PRODUCTION TESTING
THE TENSILE STRENGTH OF CERAMIC RINGS.

by
Gerald M. Mayer and Hector J. Cini

Technical Memorandum No. EB11-29-71

10 May 1971

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INTRODUCTION

The device described below was developed for better quality control of ceramic rings used in transducer construction. Previous tests conducted by Stanford Research Institute indicate that about 6% of the rings used in constructing TR-208 transducer elements have abnormally low tensile strength. This means that there is approximately 25% probability that a finished transducer element with a 4 ring stack will have at least one abnormally weak ring.

This production test device is used to stress each ring to a safe working level, approximately 60% of tensile yield strength and thereby eliminate any faulty rings before they are used in a transducer assembly.

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DISCUSSION

The device is shown in Figure 1. A hydraulic pump supplies pressure to a small hydraulic jack, #1. Base plate #2, rubber washer #3, top plate #4 are held together by a bolt as an assembly and the bolt is threaded into the hydraulic jack #1. As the pressure is applied to the jack, the force causes the rubber washer #3 to compress against the base plate #4. This causes the rubber washer to expand radially and apply a uniform load on the ceramic ring. Releasing the pressure causes the rubber washer to return to its original position.

To test a ceramic ring, the ring is slipped over the top plate, down over the rubber washer, and brought to rest against the base plate. This positions the ring in line with the rubber washer. The assembly is then adjusted by the bolt so that the clearance between the ceramic ring and the rubber washer is approximately .002 to .005 inches.

Shroud #5 has a dual function. This is slipped over the assembly. The large hole fits over the ceramic ring under test and the shoulder of the small hole rests on the top surface of the ring. The small hole of the shroud fits over the top plate #4 and positions the shroud concentrically on the assembly. The shoulder on the shroud shorts out the electrical charge as the ring is stressed and protects the operator as he removed the ring which has passed the test. The large hole in the shroud fits over the ceramic ring and protects the operator from being injured by broken ceramic fragments from a ring that fractures.

Figure 2 shows an exploded view of the stress generating assembly and its component parts. Pressure gage #6 indicates the applied load in psi. No. 7 is a ceramic ring.

The stress impressed on the ceramic ring generated by the expanding rubber washer is determined by the load vs. stress calibration curve, Figure 3. This curve was generated by taking the average strain from two (2) strain gages on the outside diameter of a ceramic ring 90° apart and using a correction factor of 1.13 to obtain the maximum stress at the inner surface of the ring.

$$\text{Maximum stress} = 1.13 \times E \times e$$

The elastic modulus E was taken as 14×10^6 psi.

Figure 4 gives tabulated results on tensile tests on thirty-nine(39) TR-208A ceramic rings using the described device. Taking 10,000 psi as

the nominal tensile strength of the ceramic material and 60% of this as a safe working stress, it can be seen that three (3) rings are below the 6000 psi stress requirement. This indicates a 7.6% failure rate on the 39 rings. In a transducer of four (4) stacked rings using the above 39 rings, it is conceivable that one defective ring could have been used in three of the eight (8) transducer assemblies.

Ceramic rings of various diameters and heights can also be tested by merely changing the stress generating assembly parts #2, #3, and #4 to appropriate dimensions. The feature of the device is that it permits simulated hydrostatic loading without the use of a fluid medium.

Figure 5 is tabulated data on forty (40) ceramic rings tested to fracture. The data is self explanatory.

Figure 6 is tabulated in serial number order and stress at failure order. It is interesting to note in the stress at failure order that ring serial #'s 196, 194, 193, and 195 have the lowest stress at failure. The consecutive serial numbers suggest that this is not a randomly distributed weakness, but can probably be attributed to some event in the production process common to that group of rings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that a tensile strength test using a device similar to the one described above be made a specification requirement in the procurement of all ceramic rings intended for use in active sonar transducers.

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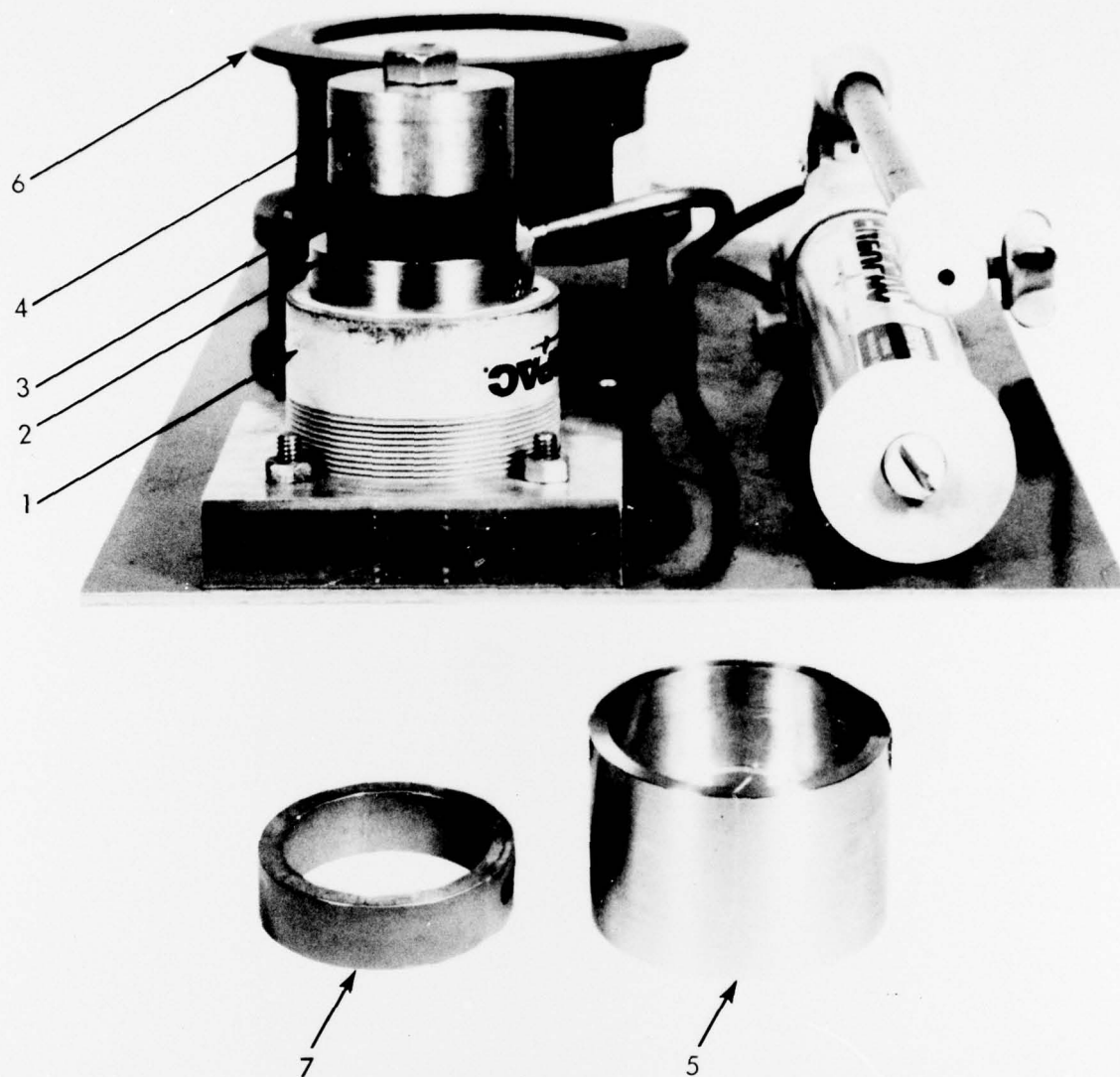


Fig. 1

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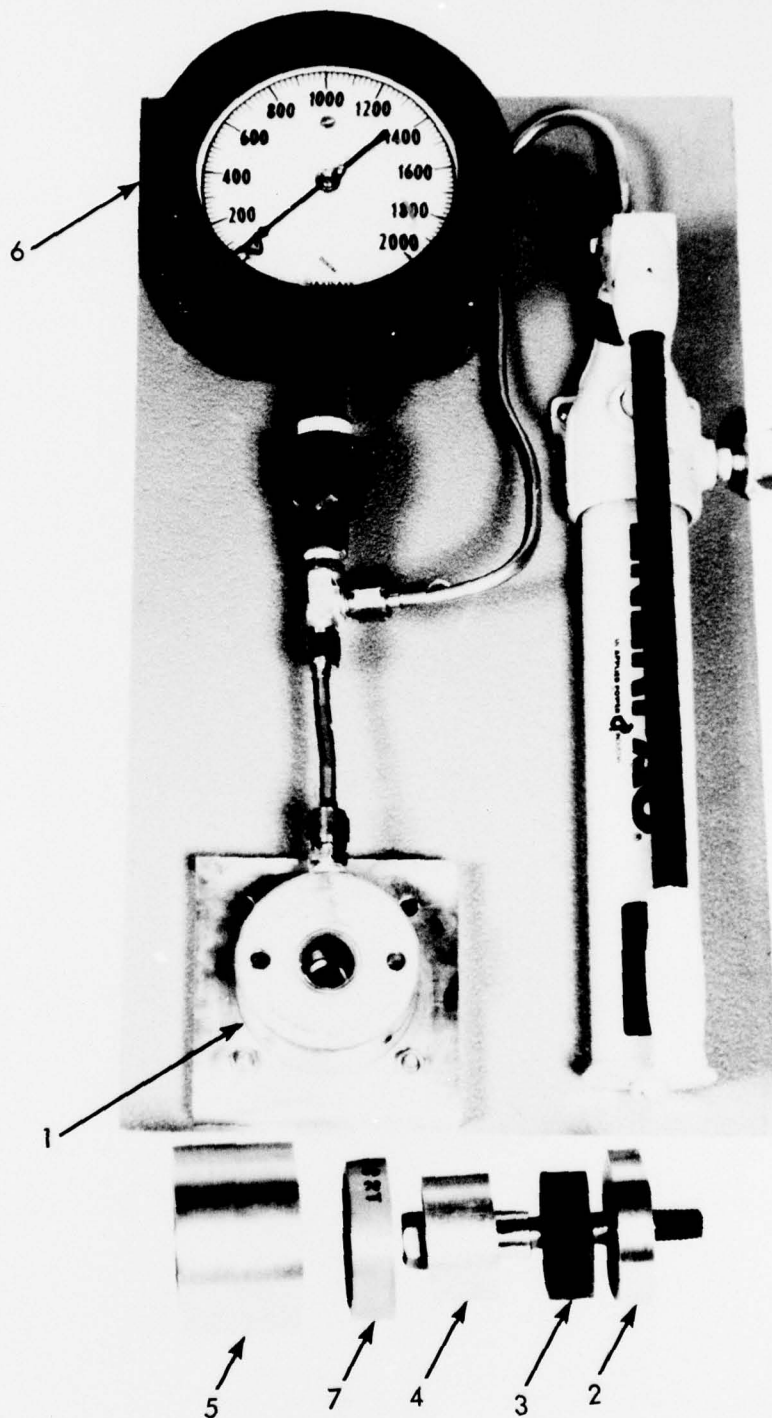


Fig. 2

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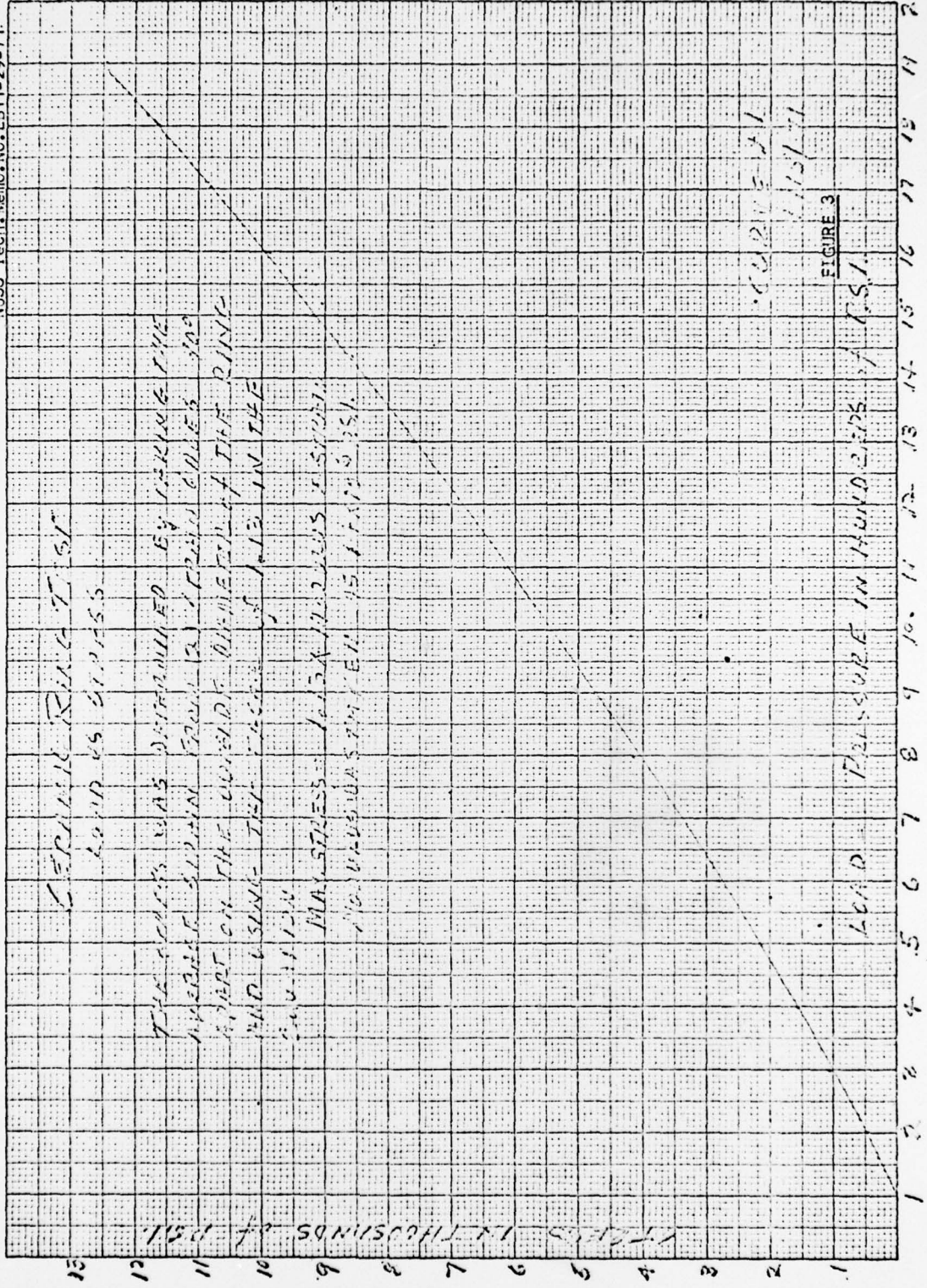


FIGURE 3

CERAMIC RING TEST

FIGURE 4

A total of thirty-nine (39) ceramic rings were tested using the described device. Each ring was taken to its ultimate tensile strength. The load at fracture was recorded and the stress determined from the calibration curve of Figure 1.

<u>Ring Serial</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Load PSI</u> <u>To Fracture</u>	<u>Stress</u> <u>PSI</u>	<u>Ring Serial</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Load PSI</u> <u>To Fracture</u>	<u>Stress</u> <u>PSI</u>
197	1740	11150	119	1740	11150
194	980	5300	105	1740	11150
193	1040	5700	98	1550	9600
200	1580	9800	113	1420	8500
195	1180	6700	86	1480	9000
199	1520	9300	87	1540	9500
196	500	2200	97	1740	11150
198	1280	7400	100	1720	11000
106	1440	8700	108	1640	10300
104	1680	10600	107	1780	11500
103	1440	8700	120	1400	8400
101	1760	11300	110	1240	7100
88	1850	12100	116	1660	10500
90	1480	9000	102	1680	10600
85	1800	11600	99	1640	10300
89	1800	11600	92	1800	11600
112	1380	8200	114	1420	8500
95	1700	10800	111	1580	9800
117	1620	10100	109	1760	11300
115	1640	10300	118	Accidentally Broken	

CERAMIC RING TEST DATA EDO WESTERN TR-208 RINGS

FIGURE 5

Tech. Memo. No. EB11-29-71

SERIAL #	LOAD AT FRACTURE	STRESS AT FRACTURE										
197	1740	11,100	}	TESTED TO DESTRUCTION AT RECEIVED								
194	980	5,250										
193	1040	5,700										
200	1580	9,800										
195	1180	6,660										
199	1520	9,300										
196	500	2,150										
198	1280	7,420										
106	1440	8,670										
104	1680	10,610										
103	1440	8,670										
101	1760	11,300										
88	1850	12,080										
90	1480	9,000										
85	1800	11,640										
87	1800	11,640										
112	1380	8,200	}	TESTED TO DESTRUCTION AFTER HIGH FIELD MEASUREMENTS								
95	1700	10,760										
117	1620	10,110										
115	1640	10,290										
119	1740	11,100										
105	1740	11,100										
98	1550	9,550										
113	1420	8,500										
86	1480	9,000										
87	1540	9,480										
97	1740	11,100										
100	1720	10,950										
108	1640	10,290										
107	1780	11,450										
120	1400	8,350										
110	1240	7,110										
116	1660	10,460	}	Mean fracture load 1607 (raw d. t.) Mean fracture stress 10030 psi (raw d. t.) σ_{load} 152 (raw d. t.) σ_{stress} 1232 psi (raw d. t.)								
102	1680	10,610										
99	1640	10,290										
92	1808	11,640										
114	1420	8,500										
111	1580	9,800										
109	1760	11,300										
118	NO DATA - BROKEN BY ACCIDENT											
OVERALL FIGURES												
Mean fracture stress -		9511 psi						}	on raw data			
$\sigma_{fracture}$		2038 psi										
Mean fracture stress -		10201 psi						}	After converging iterative process eliminating outliers of mean $\pm 2\sigma$			
$\sigma_{fracture}$		1116 psi										

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CERAMIC RING TEST DATA

FIGURE 6

LISTED IN SER# ORDER					LISTED IN FAILURE SER# ORDER				
SER #	Stress at fracture				SER #	Stress at fracture			
85	11640				196	2150			
86	9000				194	5250			
87	9480				193	5700			
88	12080				195	6660			
89	11640				110	7110			
90	9000				198	7420			
92	11640				112	8200			
95	10760				120	8350			
97	11100				114	8500			
98	9550				113	8500			
99	10290				103	8670			
100	10750				106	8670			
101	11300				86	9000			
102	10610				90	9000			
103	8670				199	9300			
104	10610				87	9480			
105	11100				98	9550			
106	8610				111	9800			
107	11450				200	9800			
108	10290				117	10110			
109	11300				99	10290			
110	7110				108	10290			
111	9000				115	10290			
112	8200				116	10460			
113	8500				102	10610			
114	8500				104	10610			
115	10290				95	10760			
116	10460				100	10950			
117	10110				97	11100			
118	NO DATA				105	11100			
119	11100				119	11100			
120	8350				197	11100			
193	5700				101	11300			
194	5250				109	11300			
195	6660				107	11450			
196	2150				85	11640			
197	11100				89	11640			
198	7420				92	11640			
199	9300				88	12080			
200	9800				118	NO DATA			

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